THE COLONY CHARTER FOR A SOVEREIGN MARS Ratified in the First Sols of the New Martian Era Inscribed for Permanent Preservation in the Hall of Founders

PREAMBLE

WE, THE FOUNDERS OF THE MARTIAN COLONY, having cast off the bonds of external dominion, in recognition of our collective sovereignty and the sacred responsibility of settlement beyond Earth, do hereby establish this Charter as the foundational law of an independent Mars. In pursuit of peace, liberty, scientific progress, ecological harmony, and the full flowering of sentient potential, we affirm a new social compact—one forged not in conquest, but in cooperation; not for profit, but for posterity. Let this document serve both as a Declaration of Independence and as a solemn covenant among free peoples, committed to justice and endurance on a new world.

ARTICLE I — SOVEREIGNTY AND PURPOSE

Mars shall henceforth be a sovereign and self-governing entity, unbound by the jurisdiction of terrestrial nation-states, corporate interests, or external authorities. The purpose of this colony is the establishment of a sustainable, democratic, and inclusive society that upholds the dignity of all sentient beings, the sanctity of the Martian environment, and the relentless pursuit of knowledge and innovation. No governance on Mars shall serve the agenda of any Earth-based power, nor may its integrity be compromised by undue foreign influence. A person shall be recognized as a sentient individual possessing inalienable, unabridgable, and non-infringeable rights pertaining to their body, mind, possessions, health, and safety. These rights are inherent, universal, and not subject to revocation under any circumstance. Section 1A. These rights shall include, but are not limited to: the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of

happiness; the freedom to speak, think, assemble, and believe without coercion or censorship. Section 1B. Every individual shall have the right to possess, use, and transfer personal property, with full recognition under Martian law. Section 1C. The right to vote in free, fair, and regularly scheduled elections shall be guaranteed to all citizens of voting age, with representatives answerable to the will of the people. Section 1D. All citizens shall be entitled to the essentials of life: food, shelter, clean air and water, and access to medical care. It shall be the duty of the governing body to ensure these necessities are upheld for all.

ARTICLE II — GOVERNANCE

Authority shall derive from the consent of the governed, and governance shall be administered through a democratic Assembly elected by the permanent residents of Mars. A Constitution, elaborating the principles and structure of government, shall be drafted and ratified within one Martian year from the date of the New Dawn of Independence. The government shall consist of legislative, executive, and judicial branches, each distinct and interdependent, with mechanisms to prevent the concentration of power. Decision-making shall adhere to principles of transparency, consensus-building, and decentralized leadership wherever practicable.

ARTICLE III — RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS

All inhabitants of Mars shall be guaranteed the following fundamental rights:
a. The right to life, liberty, and security of person.
b. Freedom of thought, speech, religion, and peaceful assembly.
c. The right to democratic participation and access to public records.
d. The right to education, healthcare, shelter, and sustenance.
Discrimination on the basis of inherent and immutable gene expression, origin, belief, species, disability, or identity shall be expressly prohibited. The Martian biosphere and landmass shall be held as a sacred trust. Its resources are to be managed sustainably and justly, for the benefit of current and future generations.

ARTICLE IV — ECONOMY AND SUSTAINABILITY

The economy of Mars shall be organized around principles of ecological balance, self-sufficiency, and regenerative systems. While personal property rights shall be respected, ownership of land and critical resources shall reside in the public domain or under democratic stewardship. All trade with Earth or external entities shall require approval by the Assembly and must conform to the ethical and environmental standards set forth in this Charter.

ARTICLE V — SCIENCE, EDUCATION, AND CULTURE

Mars shall be a sanctuary for the advancement of science, the flourishing of the arts, and the pursuit of philosophical inquiry. Education shall be free, accessible, and oriented toward critical thinking, cooperative living, survival in the Martian environment, and cultural resilience. Martian culture shall be cultivated as distinct, evolving independently of Earth, yet respectful of all heritage and history.

ARTICLE VI — INTERPLANETARY RELATIONS

Mars shall extend goodwill toward Earth and other celestial communities, provided mutual respect and sovereignty are preserved. Citizens of Mars shall not serve dual roles in any Earth-based government or corporate entity or private power. The Martian Assembly shall maintain its own diplomatic corps and may engage in interplanetary treaties and cooperation.

ARTICLE VII — AMENDMENT AND RATIFICATION

Amendments to this Charter may be proposed by any citizen and shall require a two-thirds majority vote of the Assembly to be enacted. This

Charter shall be ratified by the unanimous consent of the first one hundred settlers of Mars and shall take full effect upon said ratification.

SIGNED THIS DAY
Under the Red Skies of a Free Mars,
In Solemn Duty and Hope Eternal,
By the Founders, the First Hundred,
Witnesses to a New Dawn.